

# **Calvary Chapel Cary Women's Ministry**

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cccary.org

## ***Welcome to Calvary Chapel Women's Ministry!***

Calvary Chapel Cary Women's Ministry is dedicated to helping women grow in their relationship with and commitment to the Lord, resulting in a better understanding of their role as Christian women and a closer walk with Jesus Christ. We are very fortunate to have this freedom to come together for the study of God's Word. As women, we are able to listen to what the Lord has to say specifically to us and to grow deeper in intimacy with Him in the process.

### **My Prayer for You**

*So we have not stopped praying for you since we first heard about you. We ask God to give you complete knowledge of his will and to give you spiritual wisdom and understanding. Then the way you live will always honor and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, you will grow as you learn to know God better and better.*

*Colossians 1:9-10 NLT*

This booklet is an overview of the Women's Ministry events and Bible Study. We have also included some suggested resources to strengthen your walk with the Lord. We hope you find it very helpful!

With Love,

Ms. Elvira

## **WOMEN'S MINISTRY FELLOWSHIP**

The Women's Ministry hosts several fellowship events throughout the year. From proper tea parties to whacky game nights, there are fun opportunities for women to meet together, laugh and even learn a few things!

Here are just some of the events we typically host:

- **Ladies Summer Nights**  
During our summer break between Bible Study sessions, we host 3 – 4 Monday evening events (1-2 per month during June, July and August). Each Summer Nights event is themed, and could include a game night, health and beauty night, or talent show.
- **Girl, You Got Issues (GYGI)**  
This is a “mini-retreat” offered biannually to address topics specific to the various seasons in the lives of women, including friendship, marriage, service, etc. This at-home retreat includes teaching from Ms. Elvira, breakout sessions and testimonials.
- **Christmas Tea**  
Fine china, fabulous fancy finger foods and divine tea makes for a wonderful time together.
- **Special Events**  
Throughout the year, the Women's Ministry hosts a variety of fun and inspiring events, including special concerts, craft fairs, shopping excursions and more!

## RETREATS

Each Winter we take an opportunity to get away together to deepen our relationship with the Lord, be inspired, and strengthen our bond to each other. We either go out of town to a retreat center, or we stay in town, meeting at the church for meals, fellowship, teaching...and lots of fun!

When we meet together at an off-site retreat center, we are blessed to have Calvary Chapel pastors' wives join us to share personal and impactful teaching from God's Word. This is always a very special time of bonding, as we are without the normal distractions of work, family and to-do lists.

When the retreat is more of the "stay-at-home" type, we meet Friday evening and all day Saturday at the church to enjoy solid teaching, skits and fellowship – not to mention delicious food! It's a great local getaway opportunity, and some women even choose to stay at a local hotel to maintain that true retreat feel!

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Many different opportunities are available within Women's Ministry. Based upon your God-given gifts and abilities, you can be a huge blessing to the ministry. The retreats and fellowship events require many hands to make the work light, and there are also ongoing opportunities during Bible Study. Moreover, the Women's Ministry plays a vital role in coming alongside the thriving Men's Ministry and other church- and community-wide events, so help is truly needed throughout the year.

## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The foundation of everything we do at Calvary Chapel Cary is the Word of God. The Bible is God's love letter to His people, it is the Truth, and it is the Sword of the Spirit to thwart the attacks of the enemy. It is vital that we come together to study God's Word as women, able to listen to what the Lord has to say specifically to us, and to grow deeper in intimacy with Him in the process.

***Elvira Finch (Pastor Rodney's wife) guides us through, verse by verse, in a process that allows each woman to discover for herself what God has for her life.***

Our prayer is that these studies will be a blessing to you. As we begin each new year of study, may you keep in mind and take to heart the apostle Paul's exhortation to Timothy about the preeminence of Scripture, that it is profitable in four ways:

1. Doctrine – Sound, healthy teaching
2. Reproof – Conviction; truth beyond despair
3. Correction – Setting things in order
4. Instruction – The training process that fully prepares and thoroughly equips you to minister and serve

### • **Days & Times**

In order to accommodate women in all seasons of life, the Women's Bible Study is offered both on Monday evenings and Friday mornings. With optional fellowship opportunities for both sessions, our hope is to not only deepen women's relationship with God, but also with each other.

The Fall session typically begins mid-September and ceases for the Holidays about mid-November. We pick up again in January for the Spring session, which finishes by the end of May.

All sessions meet in the Youth Ministry Building at Calvary Chapel Cary.

- **Study Meeting Format**

*Friday Morning*

10-10:30 am: Worship & Welcome

10:30-11:30 am: Small Group Discussion

11:30-noon: Large Group Teaching with Ms. Elvira

Noon – 1 pm: (Optional) Potluck Lunch & Fellowship

*Monday Evening*

6:15-7 pm: (Optional) Potluck Dinner & Fellowship

7-7:30 pm: Praise & worship; welcome

7:30-8:20 pm: Small group discussion

8:20-9 pm: Large group teaching with Ms. Elvira

- **Registration**

Please be sure to register if you plan to attend the study. Registration for Women's Bible Study is always open and can be completed online at [cccary.org](http://cccary.org).

- **Childcare**

Childcare for both the evening and morning sessions will be provided, as possible. Childcare is provided for ages 4 months through 12 years. Older children who attend must be able to monitor their own behavior or can assist with childcare.

- **Small Group Reminders**

1 Peter 1:22 says, "Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply from the heart." Loving one another is the key to a fruitful small group discussion.

- Please keep the focus of the group discussion on the verses we are studying. We want all our conversations to glorify God and edify one another.
- Be sure to monitor how much talking you do to be sure others have a turn to contribute to the discussion as well.
- Never gossip about anyone – especially under the guise of a prayer request.
- Problems shared within the group should be kept confidential and not spread outside the group.
- There may be women from other churches in the group; be sure to be sensitive to this fact during discussions.
- Group leaders will collect prayer requests among the group. Please pray for your sisters in Christ throughout the week.

- **Inclement Weather**

If inclement weather is occurring or imminent, please check [cccary.org](http://cccary.org) or the Calvary Chapel Facebook page to see if study has been canceled.

- **Study Approach**

**Your Bible Is a Mine, Not a Museum**

*"The more we wonder over the Bible, the more wonder-full we discover it is. That's why we must think of the Bible more as a mine than a museum.*

*"...for most people, a museum visit provides mainly a superficial understanding of history, science, technology, art, athletics, or whatever else. Even if they enlist a tour guide, the increased understanding is still relatively modest, as understanding goes. The amount of time spent at each exhibit is limited. Most visitors view a display for a short time and for the most part are content taking what they see and read at face value.*

*"Repeat visits help. Regular museum visitors can become quite familiar with exhibits and even be able to converse fairly intelligently about the displays. To those less familiar with the subjects, veteran museumgoers might seem to be lay experts in the field. They may even consider themselves to be such. And yet, really, the knowledge base remains for the most part superficial.*

**Mines Are Enriching**

*"Miners observe and gather with a different mindset than a museumgoer. To miners, the knowledge they acquire is not merely interesting; it's vital. They aren't merely enhancing their education; they are hunting for treasure. When they seek out expert knowledge, it is for a focused reason: Such knowledge leads to fortune.*

*"Miners are trying to unearth wealth. They dig. They probe. They poke around. They pick up rocks and turn them over, looking intently. Mining isn't a leisurely afternoon's recreation. Mining is a diligent, persistent, and even tedious examination. Hours are*

*spent carefully combing through a small area, because if looking is not done carefully, a gem might be missed.*

**Treasures for Those Who Dig**

*"The Bible is as fascinating as the best museum. There is a lot to glean from it at face value. But it is enriching as a mine. Begin to dig, poke around, and examine, and it yields wonderful things that you didn't notice at first.*

*"If we read Bible stories like museum exhibits, always viewing them fairly quickly and then moving to the next display, our grasp tends to remain rather superficial. We might think that we've seen pretty much all that there is to see.*

*"But when we really start sifting through them — when we mine them — we find that these stories are laced with treasures. We see that there is more than initially meets the eye. God buries riches in the Bible that a miner will find and a museumgoer will not."*

*~ John Bloom (DesiringGod.org Blog, 7/31/15)*

Ladies, we must be miners, not merely museumgoers. The Lord has unique gems waiting for you as you spend quiet time to study God's Word. Each week as you study the Scriptures, here are some guidelines that may help you grow deeper in your walk with God.

- Find a quiet place to read your Bible.
- Have your study notes, resources, etc., handy.
- Pray before you begin your study, asking God to open His Word to you.
- Have that day's study questions in mind as you read over the chapter/verses for the week.

- Please plan to come to Bible study even if you were not able to do your homework or complete the study. Don't stay away and miss what God wants you to learn from and share with others!

### **Study Resources**

The format of our study is designed to deepen your relationship with God and encourage your spiritual growth through prayer, Bible study and fellowship with one another. It is the work of the Holy Spirit that causes spiritual growth in our lives, as we seek the Lord daily through prayer and personal study.

There are many wonderful resources available to help deepen your understanding of God's Word. Listed here are just some of the useful tools to help you walk closer with the Lord as you study the Bible.

- **Your Bible**
  - *Because Calvary Chapel Cary teaches from the New King James Version, we encourage the use of this version for primary study.*
  - *Use different translations and various study Bibles to discover varied wording and punctuation.*
- **Websites**
  - *Biblehub.com*                      - *Biblestudytools.com*
  - *Biblia.com*                              - *Blueletterbible.com*
  - *Biblegateway.com*              - *Bible.org*
- **Concordances**
  - *Vine's*
  - *Strong's*
- **Commentaries**
  - *Wiersbe Bible Commentary*
  - *Jon Courson's Application Commentary*

- *David Guzik Commentaries*
- *The Bible Knowledge Commentary (Walveoord/Zuck)*
- **Bible Dictionaries**
  - *Horman Bible Dictionary*
  - *Nelsons New Illustrated Bible Dictionary*

### **RESOURCES/RECOMMENDED READING**

Many of these wonderful resources can be found at the Calvary Chapel Cary bookstore.

#### **Personal Growth**

- *Come Walk in My Ways* (K. Arthur)
- *How to Be Filled with the Holy Spirit* (A.W. Tozer)
- *God's Word* (J.I. Packer)
- *Intimate Friendship with God* (J. Dawson)
- *Knowing God* (J.I. Packer)
- *Living Water* (C. Smith)
- *Spiritual Maturity* (J. O. Sander)
- *We Would See Jesus* (R. Hession)
- *The Pursuit of God* (A.W. Tozer)
- *They Found the Secret* (V. R. Erdman)
- *What the Bible is All About* (H. Mears)
- *Why Grace Changes Everything* (C. Smith)

#### **Devotionals**

- *Devotionary* (B. Coy)
- *Intimate Moments with the Savior* (K. Gire)
- *New Pilgrim's Progress* (W. Wiersbe)
- *The Lord is My Shepherd* (E. George)
- *We Would See Jesus* (R. Hession)
- *A Woman After God's Own Heart* (E. George)
- *Women Who Loved God* (E. George)

### **Biographies**

- *Andrew Murray* (W. Lindner)
- *By Searching* (I. Kuhn)
- *Glenda's Story* (G. Tevell)
- *Great Conversions* (F.S. Leahy)
- *Harvest* (C. Smith & T. Brooke)
- *Jesus Freaks* (DC Talk & VOM)
- *They Found the Secret* (V. R. Edmond)

### **Encouragement**

- *The Awesome Work of God* (J. Edwards)
- *Gaining Through Losing* (E. Christenson)
- *Out the Storm and Into God's Arms* (J. Briscoe)
- *A Path Through Losing* (E. Elliot)
- *A Path Through Loneliness* (E. Elliot)
- *The Tender Touch of God* (M. Macintosh)
- *A Tale of Three Kings* (G. Edwards)

### **Prayer**

- *Don't Just Stand There, Pray Something* (R. Dunn)
- *Effective Prayer Life* (C. Smith)
- *The Kneeling Christian* (unknown)
- *The Prayer of Jesus* (H. Hanegraaff)
- *What God Does When Women Pray* (E. Christenson)
- *What Happens When We Pray for Our Families* (E. Christenson)

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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